



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS BULLETIN

CALIFORNIA NOVEMBER 1990

This bulletin covers 26 agricultural industries, organized into five data tables: Wage and Salary Workers (Table 1), Agricultural Production Workers (Table 2), Average Weekly Earnings of production workers (Table 3), Average Hours Worked by production workers (Table 4), and Average Hourly Earnings of production workers (Table 5).

The data in this bulletin are derived from two sources: the Employment Development Department (EDD) Unemployment Insurance (UI) files, and a sample of 4,000 agricultural employers. This monthly sample was selected to be statistically representative of the agricultural employers by size, geographic location and industry categories.

Sample data are gathered for the mid-week of the month, thus all data in these bulletins represent activities taking place during this mid-month period. The sample was not complete prior to October 1990, therefore the production worker, earnings and hours data for November 1989 are not available for comparison.

Reports for six regions will be published in the near future, and will allow inter-regional comparisons of employment and earnings.

CURRENT MONTH FIGURES:

The total employment of 312,900 in agriculture for November 1990 (Table 1) was 18 percent (68,300) below the October 1990 level and down four percent from a year ago. The seasonal October to November decline was concentrated in vineyard activities (down 19,200), farm labor contractors (with 13,300 fewer), and vegetable and melons (with a decline of 7,400).

Between October and November 1990, employment in vineyards declined by 12,600 in the San Joaquin Region and 3,900 in the North Coast Region. Farm labor contractors employed 8,800 fewer in the San Joaquin Region and 1,300 fewer in the Central Coast Region. Vegetable and melon employment was down 4,100 in the Central Coast Region and accounted for 1,700 fewer workers in the San Joaquin Region.

Employment was down 14,200 from the November 1989 level of 327,100. Farm labor contractors accounted for 5,600 of the employment decline, and the rest was spread throughout the crop producing industries.

Production worker employment (Table 2) fell 21 percent between October and November 1990, to a total of 265,100. The largest drop was in the grape industry, as seasonal activities in vineyards declined and 19,300 fewer workers were needed. The next largest decline of 13,300 workers, was in the farm labor contractors category. There were 7,500 fewer working in vegetables and melons.

Average weekly earnings for agricultural production workers (Table 3) were \$270.10 in November, up from \$266.56 in October. The November average weekly earnings were \$275.85 for crop production, \$334.94 for livestock, and \$244.20 for agricultural services.

Average hours worked by agricultural production workers (Table 4) at 41.3 hours in November were up a tenth of an hour from October. Average hours worked in crops were 42.9; the livestock and agricultural services figures were 48.2 and 37.0, respectively.

Average hourly earnings for agricultural production workers (Table 5) rose from \$6.47 in October to \$6.54 in November. The November average was \$6.43 in the crops industries, up from \$6.29 in October. In the livestock industries, the average rose from 6.88 to \$6.95, but the services industries were down \$0.14 to \$6.60. November average hourly earnings ranged from a low of \$5.52 in deciduous tree fruits to a high of \$10.55 in soil preparation services.

DATA COMMENTS:

To aid in accurate usage and interpretation of the data, please note the following:

- Employment data do not include employers or unpaid family workers.
- Wage and salary workers are all employees receiving compensation from the employer.
- Production workers are employees engaged in commodity production and exclude managers, supervisors, office, sales and other staff not involved in production.
- Average hours and earnings are based on full-time and part-time production worker data.
- Average gross weekly earnings include overtime pay and premium wages. These are gross earnings before deductions and exclude the value of housing and meals.
- It is important to note that average hourly earnings are not hourly wage rates; they are production workers' gross earnings divided by total hours of work.
- "Mid-week" is the week that includes the 12th calendar day of the month.
- Figures for the current month are preliminary and subject to revision.
- Total agricultural employment estimates in this bulletin are derived from a new monthly sampling project, the Current Employment Statistics for Agriculture. Although similar (in magnitude) to other employment estimates published by the Department, these figures will not be the same because different methods are used.

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TABLE 1
WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS IN AGRICULTURAL ESTABLISHMENTS
CALIFORNIA (IN THOUSANDS)

INDUSTRY	NOV 1990	OCT 1990	NOV 1989
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL	312.9	381.2	327.1
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	173.3	224.2	181.6
TOTAL CASH GRAIN	2.9	4.0	3.6
RICE	1.6	2.3	1.9
OTHER CASH GRAIN	0.8	1.0	1.1
FIELD CROPS EXCEPT CASH GRAIN	11.4	13.8	11.2
COTTON	6.6	7.7	6.5
OTHER FIELD CROPS	3.9	5.1	3.8
VEGETABLES AND MELONS	32.3	39.7	32.6
TOTAL FRUIT AND TREE NUTS	60.5	91.1	70.0
BERRIES	9.0	15.5	9.6
GRAPES	19.1	38.3	22.1
TREE NUTS	7.7	9.3	8.5
CITRUS FRUITS	5.5	5.1	5.9
DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT	10.4	12.1	12.0
OTHER FRUITS AND NUTS	8.8	10.8	11.9
TOTAL HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES	33.6	36.4	34.5
ORNAMENTAL FLORAL & NURS PRD	30.5	33.2	31.3
FOOD CROPS GROWN UNDR COVER	3.1	3.2	3.2
GENERAL FARM PRIMARILY CROP	32.6	39.2	29.7
TOTAL AGRIC. PROD. LIVESTOCK	26.9	27.2	27.7
BEEF CATTLE FEED LOTS	0.8	0.8	1.1
BEEF CATTLE EXCEPT FEED LOTS	3.9	4.0	4.1
DAIRY FARMS	12.3	12.5	12.4
CHICKEN EGGS	3.4	3.4	3.5
TURKEYS & TURKEY EGGS	1.4	1.4	1.3
OTHER LIVESTOCK	0.9	0.9	1.0
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	112.7	129.8	117.8
SOIL PREPARATION SERVICES	1.1	1.1	1.1
CROP SERVICES	45.3	47.5	45.0
CROP PLANT-CULT-PROTECTION	4.2	4.3	4.6
CROP HARVEST PRIM. MACHINE	9.1	9.5	8.7
CROP PREP. SERV. FOR MARKET	29.0	30.7	28.6
TOTAL FARM LABOR & MANAGEMENT	66.3	81.2	71.7
FARM LABOR CONTRACTORS	59.2	72.5	64.8
FARM MANAGEMENT SERVICES	7.1	8.7	6.9

TABLE 2
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS,
CALIFORNIA (IN THOUSANDS)

INDUSTRY	NOV 1990	OCT 1990
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL	265.1	333.5
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	147.3	196.7
TOTAL CASH GRAIN	2.5	3.3
RICE	1.3	1.8
OTHER CASH GRAIN	0.7	0.9
FIELD CROPS EXCEPT CASH GRAIN	10.2	12.5
COTTON	6.1	7.1
OTHER FIELD CROPS	3.3	4.5
VEGETABLES AND MELONS	29.5	37.0
TOTAL FRUIT AND TREE NUTS	53.1	82.5
BERRIES	8.8	15.3
GRAPES	16.5	35.8
TREE NUTS	6.7	8.1
CITRUS FRUITS	5.1	4.7
DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT	8.2	9.0
OTHER FRUITS AND NUTS	7.8	9.6
TOTAL HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES	26.1	29.9
ORNAMENTAL FLORAL & NURS PRD	23.7	27.6
FOOD CROPS GROWN UNDR COVER	2.4	2.3
GENERAL FARM PRIMARILY CROP	25.9	31.5
TOTAL AGRIC. PROD. LIVESTOCK	22.9	23.3
BEEF CATTLE FEED LOTS	0.7	0.7
BEEF CATTLE EXCEPT FEED LOTS	3.1	3.2
DAIRY FARMS	11.6	11.9
CHICKEN EGGS	2.4	2.4
TURKEYS & TURKEY EGGS	0.9	0.9
OTHER LIVESTOCK	0.8	0.8
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	94.9	113.5
SOIL PREPARATION SERVICES	0.8	0.9
CROP SERVICES	31.3	34.7
CROP PLANT-CULT-PROTECTION	3.3	3.4
CROP HARVEST PRIM. MACHINE	7.8	8.4
CROP PREP. SERV. FOR MARKET	17.7	20.4
TOTAL FARM LABOR & MANAGEMENT	62.8	77.9
FARM LABOR CONTRACTORS	57.2	70.5
FARM MANAGEMENT SERVICES	5.6	7.4

TABLE 3
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS,
CALIFORNIA
(IN DOLLARS PER WEEK)

INDUSTRY	NOV 1990	OCT 1990
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL	270.10	266.56
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	275.85	271.10
TOTAL CASH GRAIN	297.50	347.49
RICE	287.12	368.15
OTHER CASH GRAIN	336.65	317.03
FIELD CROPS EXCEPT CASH GRAIN	300.51	321.00
COTTON	285.35	324.73
OTHER FIELD CROPS	341.74	326.90
VEGETABLES AND MELONS	322.94	301.92
TOTAL FRUIT AND TREE NUTS	237.84	236.51
BERRIES	249.33	208.10
GRAPES	236.06	243.18
TREE NUTS	236.32	263.45
CITRUS FRUITS	262.13	282.67
DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT	218.04	220.80
OTHER FRUITS AND NUTS	234.95	224.85
TOTAL HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES	289.08	285.75
ORNAMENTAL FLORAL & NURS PRD	285.25	284.09
FOOD CROPS GROWN UNDR COVER	326.14	302.44
GENERAL FARM PRIMARILY CROP	275.10	285.36
TOTAL AGRIC. PROD. LIVESTOCK	337.40	331.62
BEEF CATTLE FEED LOTS	364.22	360.36
BEEF CATTLE EXCEPT FEED LOTS	293.41	296.33
DAIRY FARMS	370.17	360.72
CHICKEN EGGS	278.54	271.80
TURKEYS & TURKEY EGGS	329.35	328.72
OTHER LIVESTOCK	372.00	304.32
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	244.20	246.01
SOIL PREPARATION SERVICES	634.06	579.31
CROP SERVICES	280.98	288.40
CROP PLANT-CULT-PROTECTION	258.69	332.11
CROP HARVEST PRIM. MACHINE	271.82	257.76
CROP PREP. SERV. FOR MARKET	267.24	276.31
TOTAL FARM LABOR & MANAGEMENT	220.98	223.98
FARM LABOR CONTRACTORS	219.59	222.26
FARM MANAGEMENT SERVICES	237.65	235.92

TABLE 4
AVERAGE HOURS WORKED BY PRODUCTION WORKERS,
CALIFORNIA (IN HOURS PER WEEK)

INDUSTRY	NOV 1990	OCT 1990
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL	41.3	41.2
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	42.9	43.1
TOTAL CASH GRAIN	42.5	49.5
RICE	40.1	50.5
OTHER CASH GRAIN	53.1	49.0
FIELD CROPS EXCEPT CASH GRAIN	47.7	53.5
COTTON	47.4	55.7
OTHER FIELD CROPS	49.1	51.4
VEGETABLES AND MELONS	46.4	44.4
TOTAL FRUIT AND TREE NUTS	38.8	38.9
BERRIES	38.3	34.8
GRAPES	37.0	38.6
TREE NUTS	41.9	46.3
CITRUS FRUITS	38.1	42.7
DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT	39.5	38.4
OTHER FRUITS AND NUTS	40.3	38.7
TOTAL HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES	44.0	45.0
ORNAMENTAL FLORAL & NURS PRD	44.5	45.6
FOOD CROPS GROWN UNDR COVER	39.2	37.9
GENERAL FARM PRIMARILY CROP	44.3	46.1
TOTAL AGRIC. PROD. LIVESTOCK	48.2	48.2
BEEF CATTLE FEED LOTS	54.2	57.2
BEEF CATTLE EXCEPT FEED LOTS	41.5	41.1
DAIRY FARMS	50.5	50.1
CHICKEN EGGS	46.5	45.0
TURKEYS & TURKEY EGGS	54.8	53.8
OTHER LIVESTOCK	48.5	50.3
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	37.0	36.5
SOIL PREPARATION SERVICES	60.1	54.6
CROP SERVICES	40.9	41.2
CROP PLANT-CULT-PROTECTION	42.2	52.3
CROP HARVEST PRIM. MACHINE	37.7	35.9
CROP PREP. SERV. FOR MARKET	39.3	39.7
TOTAL FARM LABOR & MANAGEMENT	34.8	34.3
FARM LABOR CONTRACTORS	34.8	34.3
FARM MANAGEMENT SERVICES	35.0	33.8

TABLE 5
AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS,
CALIFORNIA
(IN DOLLARS PER HOUR)

INDUSTRY	NOV 1990	OCT 1990
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL	6.54	6.47
TOTAL FIELD CROPS	6.43	6.29
TOTAL CASH GRAIN	7.00	7.02
RICE	7.16	7.29
OTHER CASH GRAIN	6.34	6.47
FIELD CROPS EXCEPT CASH GRAIN	6.30	6.00
COTTON	6.02	5.83
OTHER FIELD CROPS	6.96	6.36
VEGETABLES AND MELONS	6.96	6.80
TOTAL FRUIT AND TREE NUTS	6.13	6.08
BERRIES	6.51	5.98
GRAPES	6.38	6.30
TREE NUTS	5.64	5.69
CITRUS FRUITS	6.88	6.62
DECIDUOUS TREE FRUIT	5.52	5.75
OTHER FRUITS AND NUTS	5.83	5.81
TOTAL HORTICULTURAL SPECIALTIES	6.57	6.35
ORNAMENTAL FLORAL & NURS PRD	6.41	6.23
FOOD CROPS GROWN UNDR COVER	8.32	7.98
GENERAL FARM PRIMARILY CROP	6.21	6.19
TOTAL AGRIC. PROD. LIVESTOCK	7.00	6.88
BEEF CATTLE FEED LOTS	6.72	6.30
BEEF CATTLE EXCEPT FEED LOTS	7.07	7.21
DAIRY FARMS	7.33	7.20
CHICKEN EGGS	5.99	6.04
TURKEYS & TURKEY EGGS	6.01	6.11
OTHER LIVESTOCK	7.67	6.05
TOTAL AGRICULTURAL SERVICES	6.60	6.74
SOIL PREPARATION SERVICES	10.55	10.61
CROP SERVICES	6.87	7.00
CROP PLANT-CULT-PROTECTION	6.13	6.35
CROP HARVEST PRIM. MACHINE	7.21	7.18
CROP PREP. SERV. FOR MARKET	6.80	6.96
TOTAL FARM LABOR & MANAGEMENT	6.35	6.53
FARM LABOR CONTRACTORS	6.31	6.48
FARM MANAGEMENT SERVICES	6.79	6.98